

1 2. The die insert according to claim 1 wherein said textured relief comprises a
2 plurality of generally transverse relief patterns, the relief representing surface depressions
3 of more than one one-thousandth inch.

3. The die insert according to claim 1 wherein said texture relief is achieved by a plurality of generally transverse scribe lines.

4.(amended) The die insert according to claim 1 wherein said texture relief is achieved by acid etching of the surface of the back face.

1 5. (amended) A die insert for use in pipe string handling apparatus, having generally
2 parallel first and second faces on opposite sides, said die insert comprising:

3 a) said die insert with a first of the faces textured with projecting teeth for gripping
4 pipe surfaces; and

5 b) the second face textured with surface depressions to reduce the surface area in
6 contact with a mating surface of die insert carrying slips such that more than a
7 selected normal loading of the die insert will coin an impression of the textured
8 surface of the die insert into the mating surface of the related die insert carrying
9 [groove] slip, for the purpose of reducing the tendency of the die insert to slide [in]
10 on the [groove] slip when the die insert is carrying a substantial payload.

6. The die insert according to claim 5 wherein said textured surface depressions are more than one one-thousandth of an inch deep.

1 7. The die insert according to claim 5 wherein said textured surface depressions
2 comprise a plurality of generally transverse relief patterns, the relief representing a surface

3 depression of more than one thousandth inch.

8. The die insert according to claim 5 wherein said textured surface depressions are achieved by a plurality of generally transverse scribe lines.

9. The die insert according to claim 5 wherein said textured surface depressions are achieved by acid etching of the insert.

10. (amended) The die insert according to claim 5 wherein said textured surface on said second face comprises a pattern [of a] definable as an image.

11. Cancel

1 12. (amended) A die insert for use in pipe string handling apparatus, having
2 generally parallel first and second faces on opposite sides, said die insert comprising:

3 a) said die insert with a first of the faces textured with projecting teeth for
4 gripping pipe surfaces; and

5 b) the second face textured with surface depressions created to displace metal
6 upward in the [vicinity] vicinity of the depression to present a small elevated
7 surface accumulation of such limited effective collective load bearing area
8 that the raised [metal] metal will be imbedded into the surface of the insert
9 supporting surface of a die carrying slip, when subjected to a preselected
10 amount of force perpendicular to said second face, to reduce the tendency for
11 the insert to slide on the insert supporting surface.

13. The die insert according to claim 12 wherein said textured surface depressions are more than one one-thousandth of an inch deep.

1 14. The die insert according to claim 12 wherein said textured surface
2 depressions comprise a plurality of generally transverse relief patterns, the relief
3 representing a surface depression of more than one thousandths inch.

15. The die insert according to claim 12 wherein said textured surface
depressions are achieved by a plurality of generally transverse scribe lines.

16. The die insert according to claim 12 wherein said textured surface
depressions are achieved by acid etching of the insert.

17. Cancel.

1 18. (amended) The die insert according to claim 12 wherein said elevated
2 surface accumulation [pictorial pattern] is definable as a symbol [having a definable
3 pattern].